

SIGNIFICANT COLLECTIONS OF LOUISIANA PLANTS,

IV. CLAIBORNE PARISH

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A survey and study of the vascular flora of Claiborne Parish, Louisiana was made from March, 1976 through November, 1980 (Lewis 1980). During this study specimens of 132 families, 479 genera and 1074 species and subspecific taxa were collected or found to be on deposit in several Louisiana herbaria.

Because of its location away from all the major roads and railroads, the flora of Claiborne Parish was one of the most poorly collected of the state at the beginning of this study. Probably over half of the species collected were parish records and at least four state records were collected. Citations for these four state records follow.

Belamcanda chinensis (L.) DC. Edge of pasture beside Flat Lick Road north of La. 534 northwest of Langston, Sec. 6, T20N, R8W. R. Dale Thomas and Larry G. Lewis, 74216 & 3009, 16 October 1980. Correll and Johnston (1970) gives the range of this species as "from Ga. to Texas, Kansas and Conn." No specimens from Louisiana are known to the author and this range is typical of those given for several Louisiana plants which leave it open to the reader to interpret whether it is known from the state or not. Manuals are noted for saying things like "Florida to Texas" for plants which are not known to occur in Louisiana.

Cynoglossum zeylandicum (Vahl.) Thunb.
CLAIBORNE PARISH: Edge of pasture along road to Claiborne Lake State Park north of La. 146, Sec. 18, T20N, R5W. R. Dale Thomas, 55262, 17 September 1977. This population is spreading.

UNION PARISH: edge of pine woods at Bird Chapel Methodist Church east of Truxno, Sec. 30, T23N, R1E. R. Dale Thomas, 23480, 11 June 1971. This population is spreading along the edge of pine woods and in the adjoining lawn and cemetery. Plants from this population were transplanted to a flower garden in Ouachita Parish but persisted only two years.

Correll and Johnston (1970) give the range of this species as "rare in e Texas, May; native of India, Ceylon and Malaysia, introduced in various parts of the world."

Polygonum cuspidatum Sieb. & Zucc.

CLAIBORNE PARISH: Along fencerow west of La. 9 just south of Homer, Sec. 24, T21N, R7W. R. Dale Thomas and Larry G. Lewis, 64246 and 2107, 5 May 1979. We have collected it from two other locations in Claiborne Parish.

BIENVILLE PARISH: Beside La 9 near Otter Creek just south of Saline, Sec. 34, T14N, R6W. R. Dale Thomas, 7 September 1978. This population is extensive and spreading. This plant is also an escape in waste areas near DeSiard Street in downtown Monroe, Ouachita Parish, La.

Horton (1972) did not include Louisiana in the range of this plant.

Verbesina encelioides (Cav.) Gray

CLAIBORNE PARISH: edge of roadbank and a pig lot near Cypress Creek, northeast of Homer, Sec. 32, T22N, R6W. R. Dale Thomas and Larry G. Lewis, 52289 and 656, 16 May 1977.

Correll and Johnston (1970) gives the range of this plant as "very frequent in disturbed soils essentially throughout although rare in extreme east Texas, summer; Fla., Tex., s.e. through most of the warmer parts of America, adventive in Old World." This species was not included in the Louisiana flora by Cronquist (1980).

Several other rare plants were collected from Claiborne Parish, including: Ammoselinum butleri (Walt.) Coult., Baptisia sphaerocarpa Nutt., Cuscuta pentagona Engelm., Desmodium perplexum Schub., Evax candida (T. & G.) Gray, Evax verna Raf., Hypoxis longii Fern., Kuhnia eupatorioides L., Lychnis coronaria (L.) Desr., Nicotiana tabaccum L.,

Oenothera sessilis (Penn.) Munz, Panicum clandestinum L., Pennisetum typhoides (Burm.) Stapf. & Hubb., and Sanguinaria canadensis L.

Other rare plants have been collected in the past from Claiborne Parish. Allen (1980) reported Phalaris brachystachys, Phalaris paradoxa, and Poa bulbosa from the parish. A specimen of Smilacina racemosa is in the University of Southwestern Louisiana Herbarium (LAF) and one of Veronicastrum virginicum is in the Tulane University Herbarium (NO). Numerous attempts by the authors to relocate these plants in Claiborne Parish were unsuccessful.

Botrychium lunarioides Michx. is a rare plant throughout its range and occurs in large populations only in Alabama and at one site in DeSoto Parish. Although no really large populations of this plant are known from the parish, several different Claiborne locations of this plant were found during this study.

LITERATURE CITED

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